

# Harrierbills take first at First Capitol

**Patrick Meek**

**Core Staff**

If there is one thing that the SLUH cross country team is most proud of, it is its tradition. And this past weekend at the First Capitol Invitational, the Harrierbills continued their tradition of victory at McNair Park. The SLUH team has only run this meet three times and has won each time.

In 1999, the year the SLUH cross country team won the state championship, the team was able to conquer a tough field, including cross-town foe DeSmet. Last year the Linharesbills, behind the leadership of John Parr, also won the First Capitol. Later the team would go on to sweep the MCC, district, and sectional championships. If this year's win at First Capitol means success in the postseason, this team will be happy to take it.

The varsity team, consisting of Peter Schaefer, Andrew Linhares, Drew Noblot, Alex Muntges, Kevin Crean, Brennan Connor, and Matt Killiany, were ready and roaring to go after several hard months of summer training. The Harrierbills were able to take control of the race with conservative first miles, all the while running in several close packs. Schaefer and Noblot cruised through the first mile with identical times of 5:15.

After coming out of a treacherous woods section, which ended up swallowing one SLUH runner in the JV race, the Prefontainebills were able to put some distance between themselves and their nearest opponents.

"We had planned on a pack strategy through the first mile and through the woods," said Crean, "but once the race got underway we got continually split up and bringing everyone together became harder. We ran somewhat conservatively in mile one and dropped the hammer in miles two and three, something easier said than done."

Coming across the line, the Jr. Bills looked strong with all of their finishers ending their kick within one minute of each other. First across the line for the Harrierbills was Schaefer, who was able

to post an impressive 17:01 time along with a third place overall, despite heat that peaked in the mid 90s.

The rest of the team came in looking just as strong, with all of SLUH's point scorers earning medals. Linhares was able to out kick Noblot in the third mile with times of 17:26 and 17:28, respectively. Following those two upperclassmen was sophomore Muntges, who, in his first cross country meet, posted an outstanding time of 17:31. The top five was rounded

out by Crean cruising in at 17:39. Connor and Killiany finished up the varsity with times of 17:49 and 17:57.

The official point score was SLUH 65, Fort Zumwalt South 105 and Jefferson City 113.

The JV team also had a fine day with Dan Flanagan, Geoff Stewart, and Chris Arb leading the way in what many have called a dominating performance in the open race.

"Overall, I give the day a B-. We ran well, we won, but there is room for improvement," said assistant coach Tim Chik, "Hopefully when we dress in the blue at Mizzou we can pick it up."

This coming week, half the team will take on the some of the top schools in the country when they travel to the Mizzou Cross

Country Challenge. The other half will be running at the McCluer North Invitational. Please come out and support your Jr. Bills at either venue. For more information on the SLUH cross country team please visit [www.sluh.org/xc/xc.htm](http://www.sluh.org/xc/xc.htm).



XC prays, prepares to run at First Capitol.

## PN Nightbeat

Compiled by Joel Koehneman

### SOCCER LOSES 2-1 TO VIANNEY, DROPS TO 4-1

Thursday night the Jr. Bills traveled to CBC to face off against Vianney. Both teams were 1-0 in the CBC tournament entering their matchup. Vianney struck first with a goal with 22 minutes left in the first half. The Jr. Bills knotted it up at one on a goal by senior captain Matt Kreikemeier. But Vianney took the lead for good on a free kick goal with seven minutes left in the first half. The team came out in the second half trying to force the play down the middle, instead of following their game plan of working the ball around the field looking for opportunities. The Soccerbills con-

tinued to look uninspired until the game was in its last fifteen minutes and the team could feel a sense of urgency.



Tom Winkler plays a ball in SLUH's loss to Vianney last night.